

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ 50X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT
SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 23 Oct 1951

SUBJECT Altenburg Airfield

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 3
(LISTED BELOW) (A), (B) & (C)

DATE ACQUIRED BY

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFO

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANINGS OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. I was at Altenburg Airfield (505845N-123100E) for about one day

with Army maneuvers. I do not know the actual name of the field. I assume it was an old German airfield since none of the installations appeared of recent construction. It is located 10-12 km east of Altenburg. A forest extends along the eastern border; an asphalt road leading to Altenburg lies about 500 m north. I did not see any railroad tracks in the vicinity. I believe there were concrete-covered perimeter tracks on the western and southern borders of the field. The only obstructions I noted in the area were the trees on the eastern border; these were some 20 m tall.

2. I should estimate the length of the airfield to be about 1000 m (N-S) and the width about 500 m. The field was roughly rectangular and was on level, grass-covered ground. It could be extended in all directions but east, where the forest blocked it.

3. The airfield was a purely military installation; I saw no civilian passenger aircraft there. The commanding officer was a Soviet Air Force colonel and the military personnel were all members of the Soviet Air Force. I believe the unit stationed there was of regimental strength. The military personnel wore the Soviet Air Force uniform, with blue shoulder boards; I did not observe any special insignia or numbers on the shoulder boards. I believe the airfield was used by a tactical unit (fighter or ground attack); I did not see any training taking place.

4. I saw 30-35 aircraft parked on the concrete apron in straight rows with the front sections of the aircraft facing each other, and in one row, on the sod, with the aircraft facing the runway. They all appeared to be new and may have been of the IL-12 type. They were twin-engine (four-bladed propellers) monoplanes with single vertical stabilizer; and had, I believe,

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~

	X		X																
	X	AIR	EV	X	AEC	X	FBI	X											

SECRET
SECRET

50X1

- 2 -

conventional landing gear (tailwheel). I saw a glass dome on the upper section of the fuselage. I saw no machine guns or armament on the planes. Four or five were silver-colored, while the rest were green. Numbers (one or two digits) were painted in white on the vertical stabilizers but one plane had an insignia resembling a sea gull painted in white on the stabilizer instead of a number. I heard these planes were used in conjunction with airborne operations; each could carry 15 soldiers with their equipment. When I saw the planes, they seemed to be in storage status. Attached as Enclosure (C) is source's sketch of this type plane.

5. I saw about three aircraft in the forest opening by the southeastern corner of the airfield (point 6 below). They were twin-engine monoplanes with two vertical stabilizers and were, I believe, equipped with conventional landing gear. They were painted sky-blue. I saw no jet aircraft at this airfield.
6. I believe a radio transmitting station and telephone installation were available at the field. The field was provided with electricity but I do not know its source. I saw no antiaircraft installations, searchlights or radar installations; and I did not see any construction work in progress.
7. I have indicated the following points on an overlay of a map of Chemnitz Enclosure (A):

Point #1 Altenburg Airfield

#2 Leina Forest

#3 Road leading to Altenburg

#4 Altenburg City

8. I have pinpointed the following sites on a sketch of the airfield area Enclosure (B):

Point #1 Concrete runway, about 1000 m long (North - South direction); and 15 - 20 m wide. The runway was constructed of "large" concrete, square blocks.

#2 Concrete block-covered parking area, located on the north-eastern section of the airfield. This parking area was about 700 m long and about 100 m wide.

#3 Hangar buildings. I think there were three, located along the middle eastern border of the airfield adjacent to the forest. I do not recall the construction material or dimensions of these buildings. The hangars had large metal doors on the western side. The hangar roofs were semi-circular, gray and probably of metal construction. The hangar buildings were also gray. The hangar doors were closed at the time of observation.

#4 Unspecified number of buildings. Some were two and three-storied. I believe most were administrative buildings.

#5 Ruined buildings, off the southeast corner of the airfield along the forest's edge. They seemed to be old barracks.

#6 Parking area for approximately three twin-engined aircraft.

#7 Forest. Composed of fir trees [same as #2, Enclosure (A)].

- end -

Enclosures: (A) Overlay of Chemnitz Map
(B) Source's sketch of Altenburg Airfield
(C) Source's sketch of a plane

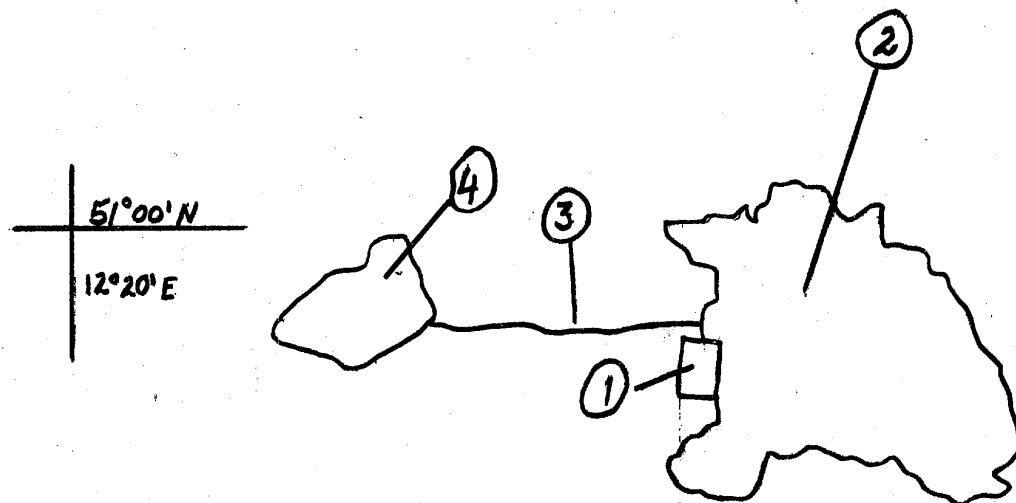
SECRET**SECRET**

SECRET

ENCLOSURE (A)

SECRET
SECRET

50X1



"Altenburg" Airfield (505845N - 123100E)
Overlay of G.S.G.S. #4416 (AM 4641) sheet E7
(1:100,000) "CHEMNITZ" map; pinpointing
subject airfield.

SECRET

SECRET

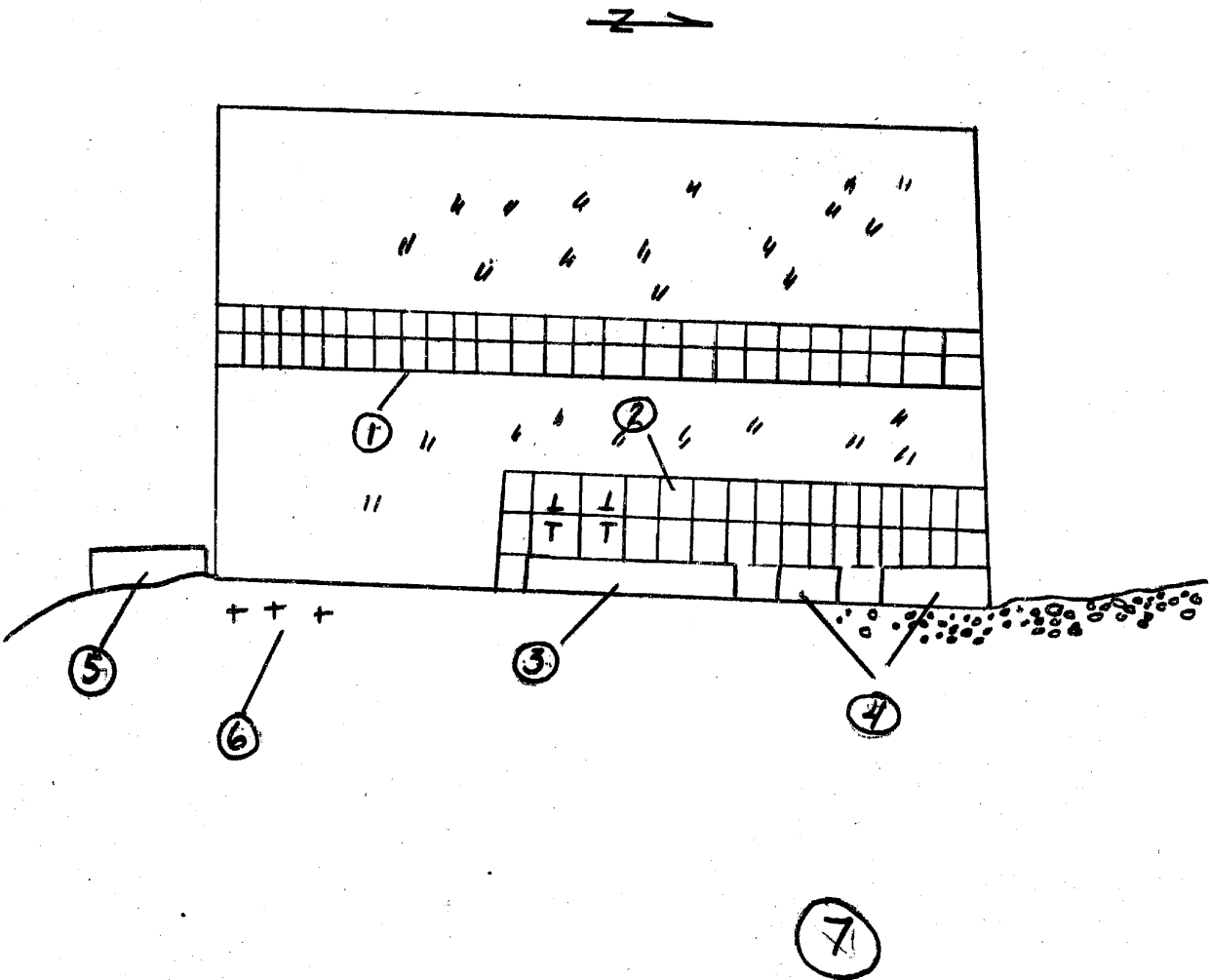
SECRET

ENCLOSURE (B)

SECRET
SECRET



50X1

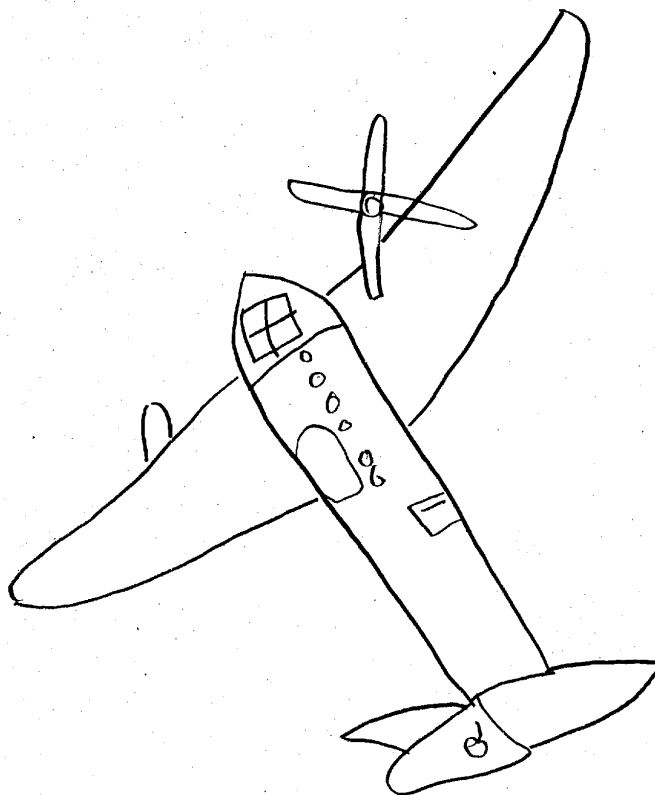


"ALTENBURG" Airfield (505845N - 123100E)
Memory sketch of airfield area.

SECRET

SECRET

ENCLOSURE (c)



"ALTENBURG" Airfield (505845N - 123100E)
Memory sketch of Aircraft observed at
Subject installation.

Secret

SECRET